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~~EWP~~

The President's Daily Brief

May 16, 1974

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~~Top Secret~~

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

May 16, 1974

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The terrorist attack on Maalot yesterday is almost certain to result in Israeli raids on fedayeen concentrations in southern Lebanon. Israel's ambassador has already warned that the incident will increase Israeli fears about "bringing tens of thousands of Arabs closer to Israel" in a Golan Heights agreement. *(Page 1)*

Portugal's 15-man cabinet announced yesterday by newly installed President Spinola contains Communists as minister of labor and minister without portfolio. The Socialist Party was given four portfolios, including the foreign ministry and the ministry charged with relations with Portugal's overseas territories. *(Page 2)*

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[redacted] USSR and 25X1

Japan [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] *(Page 4)* 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

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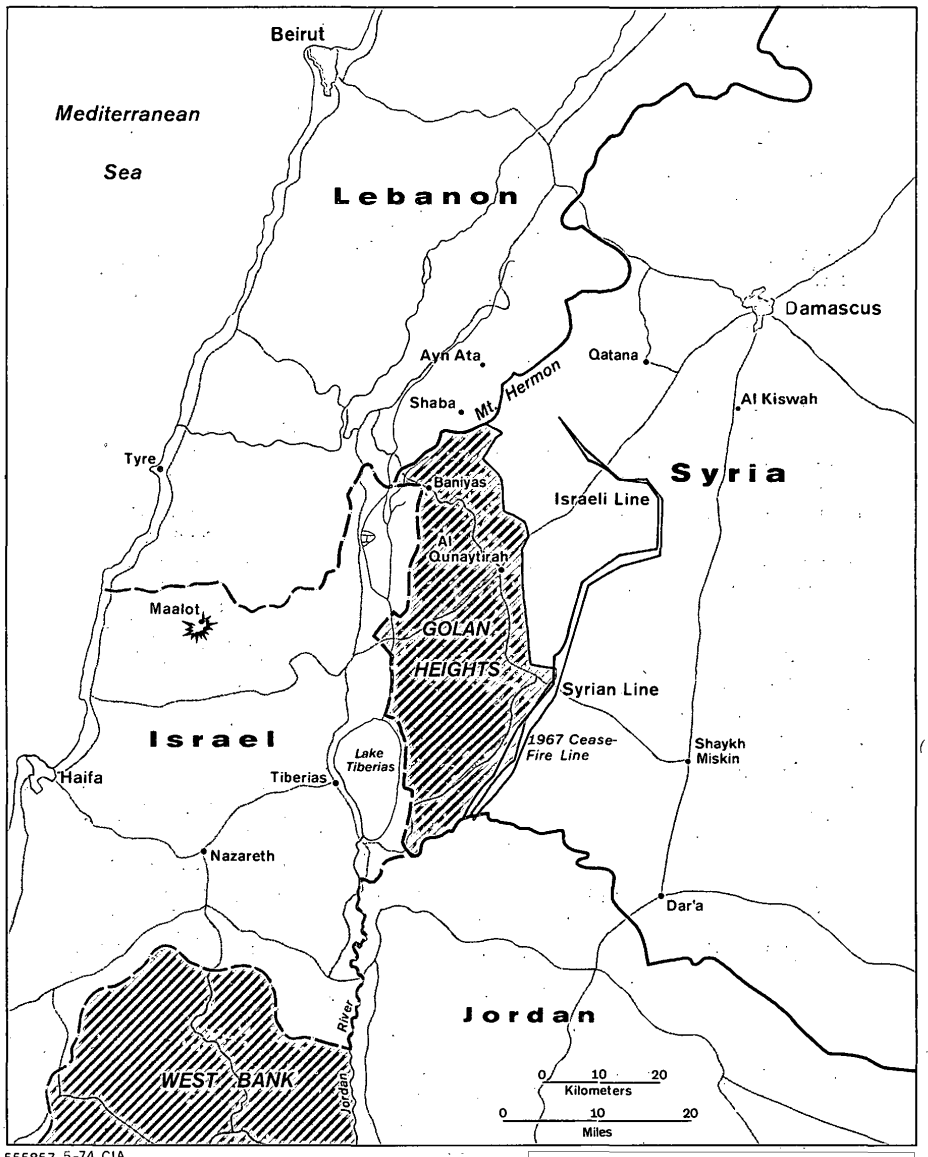

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MIDDLE EAST

The attack on Maalot yesterday is almost certain to result in Israeli raids on fedayeen concentrations in southern Lebanon. These, in turn, will oblige Syria to offer rhetorical support for the terrorists and will cause a new diplomatic fracas between Israel and Lebanon.

Lebanon's prime minister has tried to parry Israeli charges that the attackers infiltrated Israel from southern Lebanon. A student released by the commandos states that the students believe that one of the guerrillas was an Israeli Arab who worked in Safed, the Israeli town from which the hostages had come. The Palestinian press also claims that the terrorists came from within the occupied areas. Whatever the truth of these claims, there is little doubt that the terrorists' mission was organized from outside Israel. 25X1

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Israel's ambassador in Washington has warned that the attack on Maalot will increase Israeli apprehensions over "bringing tens of thousands of Arabs closer to Israel" in a Golan Heights agreement. Such fears are widespread in Israel, where the government is again under attack for failure to halt the growing number of terrorist attacks and provide adequate security for Israeli border settlements.

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Ground activity was light with only scattered exchanges of artillery and mortar fire reported.

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PORTUGAL

For the first time in Portuguese history, Communists are in the government.

A few hours after General Spinola assumed the presidency yesterday, the junta announced the members of the provisional government. Alvaro Cunhal, secretary general of the Communist Party, was named minister without portfolio; Communist Party member Avelino Pacheco Goncalves was named minister of labor.

The junta had indicated earlier in the week that Communist participation was essential to demonstrate the junta's dedication to open political participation.

The new prime minister is former bar association president Adelino da Palma Carlos, a wealthy lawyer and professor who is not aligned with any political party. The foreign ministry went to Socialist Party leader Mario Soares. Other Socialists receiving ministerial posts are: Antonio de Almeida Santos, minister of interterritorial coordination; Francisco Salgado Zenha, minister of justice; and Raul Rego, minister of information. The other eight portfolios were given to members of center parties or to persons who are apparently not aligned with any political group.

In his inaugural address, President Spinola warned against excesses and bestowed lavish praise on the Armed Forces Movement. He was especially complimentary to the "younger cadres" whose "nobility rescued the country from national tragedy." Although Spinola seems to be in control, this rhetoric may resurrect rumors that the junta is the hostage of the so-called Captain's Movement.

In contrast to the blandishments Spinola lavished on the younger officers, the junta announced yesterday that 42 senior officers had been placed on the reserve list, bringing to 66 the number of high-ranking officers who have been purged since the coup. Among those purged are several prominent conservatives who do not support Spinola's notions of self-determination for the African territories.

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PAKISTAN-SYRIA

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USSR-JAPAN

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CHINA-BURMA

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Argentina:

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